Social Services Block Grant



Purpose

Social Services Block Grant (SSBG) funded programs assist individuals or families to become less dependent on others for financial support or personal care; protect vulnerable children and/or adults: avoid unnecessary or premature institutionalization; and assist in gaining appropriate placement if institutionalization is necessary.

Who Is Helped

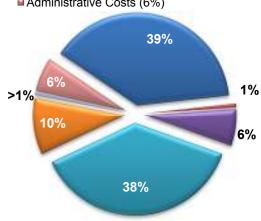
lowa's intended use plan* for the state's SSBG allocation advances the following SSBG goals on behalf of lowans:

- Achieving or maintaining economic selfsupport to prevent, reduce, or eliminate dependency.
- Achieving or maintaining self-sufficiency, including reduction or prevention of dependency.
- Preventing or remedying neglect, abuse, or exploitation of children and adults unable to protect their own interests, or preserving, rehabilitating or reuniting families.
- Preventing or reducing inappropriate institutional care by providing communitybased care, home-based care, or other forms of less intensive care.
- Securing referral or admission for institutional care when other forms of care are not appropriate or providing services to individuals in institutions.

*The 2016 SSBG Pre-Expenditure Report (intended use plan) is available on the DHS website under Reports.

Projected Use of SSBG Funds, by Program

- Case Management (39%)
- Protective Services-Adult (1%)
- Foster Care Adults (> 1%)
- Foster Care Children (6%)
- Home Based Services (37%)
- Special Services Disabled (10%)
- Other Volunteers (> 1%)
- Administrative Costs (6%)



- ✓ Prior to the mandatory sequestration in March 2013, as outlined in the Budget. Control Act of 2011, the federal SSBG allocation remained consistent at approximately \$16.6 million for the from 2008-2013.
- ✓ Sequestration and reallocations based on the most recent census reduced lowa's allocation from \$16.6 million to \$15.8 million for FFY 2014 and to \$15.3 million for FFY 2015 & FFY 2016.
- ✓ This federal block grant continues to be threatened by Congressional actions:
 - Potential future reductions for non-exempt mandatory programs, including SSBG.
 - Total elimination of the block grant under various House of Representative Labor, Health & Human Services funding proposals.

Goals & **Strategies**

Goal: Promote Iowan's Behavioral Health Status Strategies:

- Assure children with mental health conditions can be effectively served in Iowa and have effective community based options.
- Provide access to mental health services.

SFY 15 key performance

• Under Iowa's Money Follows the Person program, 80 percent of consumers transitioned from institutional to community placements within 6 months of enrollment.

Goal: promote Choice for Persons with Disabilities Strategy:

• Promote access to community based options for persons with disabilities.

Goal: Improve safety, permanency, and well-being for lowa's children

Strategies:

- Provide access to child welfare services.
- Promote best practice in service delivery.
- Since 2008, 463 consumers have transitioned out of ICF/ID placements to qualified living arrangements in the community, including 129 transitions in SFY15. Fifteen of these transitions are from out of state placements
- lowa achieved a 149.8 rating in FFY14 for assuring children whose parental rights have been terminated are adopted within 2 years. This exceeds the national minumum standard of 106.4 and lowa remains #1 ranking nationally for the fourth year.

SFY 14 key performance

- 99.4 percent of abuse assessment reports meet timeliness requirements
- 95 percent of children alleged to be victims of abuse are seen within required 1 hour and 24 hour timeframes
- 91 percent of children are safe from reabuse.
- ✓ HHS' Administration for Children & Families (ACF) has implemented new performance measure strategies to improve States' efficiency in planning for the use of SSBG funding.
 - States will receive an overall performance score reflecting the percentage of all SSBG allocated dollars that were spent as the state projected. The target is 85 percent.
 - lowa's performance on this measure has exceeded 99 percent for the past six years based on total SSBG expenditures.
 - In addition, ACF expects the percentage of SSBG funding used for administrative costs to be 10 percent or less; this will be a formalized in a performance measure in the future. Iowa's intended use plans for 2013-2016 have reported administrative cost use of less than six percent.